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wherein said actuating device and said shielding body are installed on a rooftop of a building in which said ascending and descending cage is disposed, said shielding body being readily detachable from said rooftop.

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2. (Amended) The elevator apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said actuating device includes a support member, a speed-reducer mounted on a first side of said support member, a drive assembly mounted on a second side of said support member, and a brake assembly supported on said second side of said support member, said second side being opposite from said first side.

3. (Amended) The elevator apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said speed-reducer, said drive assembly and said brake assembly are arranged coaxially to one another.

4. (Amended) The elevator apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said brake assembly is arranged radially inwardly of said drive assembly.

5. (Amended) The elevator apparatus according to claim 2, wherein an output wheel of said speed-reducer constitutes said sheave.

Please add new claim 7 as follows:

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7. (New) The elevator apparatus according to claim 1 further including a speed-reducer, a drive assembly and a brake assembly mounted on a single input shaft.

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 are currently pending in the application as amended. The Applicants have addressed the Examiner's specific rejections of claims 2-6 based upon indefiniteness. In addition, Applicants have amended claim 1 to point out that the shielding body is readily detachable from the rooftop. Support for this amendment can be found on lines 11-19 on page 7 of the specification. In addition, new claim 7, which is dependent upon claim 1 has been added and recites, the elevator apparatus of the present invention includes a speed-reducer, a drive assembly and a brake assembly mounted on a single input shaft. Support for new claim 7 can be